

# Spirit Trees for Ages 11 to Adults



**These wire trees are a bit more challenging to create, requiring fine motor skills and patience! They are also a bit more abstract in their concept, as the fruit, leaves and flowers are not labeled with qualities that we express into the world; we have to imagine this. However, the quality we are absorbing from Spirit into body and mind is clearly defined. Enjoy!**

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## Materials

### **Step 1. Creating “Nutrients”**

Round clear glass tile cabochons – approximately 1” in diameter

Magazines or colored paper

Sharpie® pens

Ballpoint pen or pencil

Glitter glue

Scissors

Tissues

### **Step 2. Gluing Nutrients onto Rocks**

Large river rocks

Nutrients from Step 1

High-temperature hot glue gun

Glue sticks

Glass of water for burns

### **Step 3. Creating Trunk and Branches**

1 spool of 24-gauge wire

Assortment of beads or other items with holes to use as leaves, blossoms and fruit

High-temperature hot glue gun

Glue sticks

Glass of water for burns

### **Step 4. Tying the Wire Tree onto the Rock**

Extra wire from 24-gauge wire spool

Rock with nutrients on it

Wire Tree

High-temperature hot glue gun

Glue sticks

Glass of water for burns

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## Step 1. Creating “Nutrients”

Each person makes up to 3 “nutrients.” It is important to use Sharpie pens to write the words so the ink won’t smear when you glue it to the glass medallion.

- 1) Think about what soul qualities or qualities of the Divine you would like to have in your life. Ideas include: peace, love, joy, caring, creativity, strength, courage, etc. (You can focus on just one or two. Gandhi changed the world by focusing on harmlessness (ahimsa) and truthfulness (satya.)
- 2) Take a glass cabochon.
- 3) Find a magazine picture where the background color is fairly uniform and light colored, or use light colored paper. Trace around the glass cabochon and cut out the circle. Make it slightly smaller than the drawn circle.
- 4) Using Sharpie pens, write in a “nutrient” word, such as love, joy, peace, helpfulness, kindness, compassion, etc. Adults can do the writing for younger children.
- 5) Put glitter glue on face of word. Smear all around with your finger! Wipe fingers with tissues
- 6) Place glass cabochon on top of word, and press out all of the air bubbles.
- 7) Turn upside down and let dry



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## Step 2. Gluing Nutrients onto Rock

- 1) Select a rock. Remember, this represents Spirit, God! The choice of the rock is important!
- 2) Place the nutrients around the rock, spacing them out.
- 3) Hot glue the nutrients in place, using a high-temperature glue gun. Have a glass of water nearby in case of burns!
- 4) Write name on the bottom of the rock with Sharpie



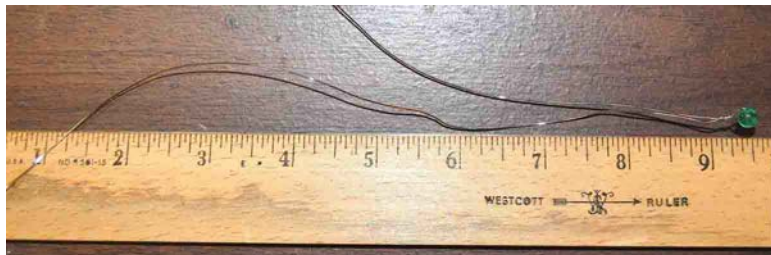
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## Step 3. Creating Tree Trunk with Wire

- 1) Take a spool of 24-gauge wire, and cut about 20 pieces of wire, approximately 24" long. They will curl up on you until you start forming them into branches.

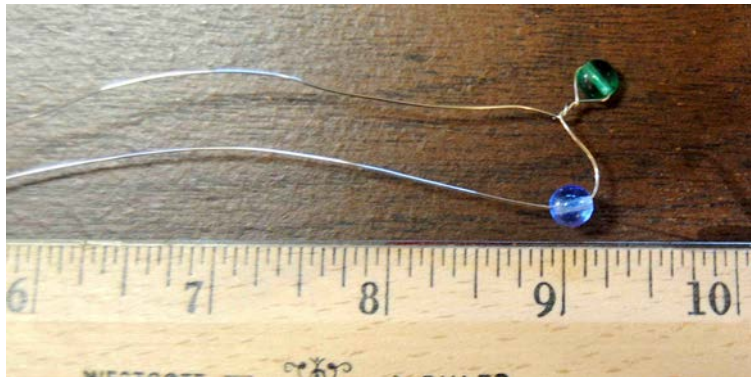


- 2) Take one wire and a bead. Place bead in the middle the wire, twist several times.



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- 3) Place a second bead on wire, about 1/3 inch from bead. Twist it in place.



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- 4) Continue placing up to 5 beads on the branch, alternating sides of wire.

- 5) When you are done putting beads on that branch, twist the wires together until you have almost reached the bottom.

- 6) Repeat until all the branches are created. You can use 1 bead per branch, or more. Variety is great! This may take awhile!



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7) Begin adding the branches together to make the tree. Add two branches together first, then add a third. Space them at different intervals down the length of the branch and trunk. You will want about 5 main branches, and each of those could use 4 or 5 wires. Stop twisting them together when you have about 4" to go.



8) With the remaining 4", begin "branching" out the roots, first twisting about 4 roots together for a short distance, then separating those into 2, and twisting those, and finally separating those again.

9) Shape the wire to form your tree!

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## Step 4. Tying the Wire Tree onto the Rock

1. Add extra wire to roots so that the wire can completely wrap around the bottom of the rock.
2. If needed, add extra wire to the trunk to stabilize it.
3. Wrap the wire roots around the rock, twisting the wire tight. Be sure to wrap in different directions so the rock will not slip out.
4. Use high-temperature hot glue on the bottom of the rock to attach strategic sections of the wire, giving extra stability to the roots and to stop the rock from tipping the wrong way.



**Enjoy!**